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BRIERLEY HILL
URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL



REPORT

on the Works of the

PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

for 1957



J. H. DONNELLY,
Medical Officer of Health

C. H. CRAWFORD
Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent

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BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR G. HORWILL, B.SC.(ECON)., M.COM.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR G. E. TREVIS

Councillors:

MRS. M. J. PARGETER, J.P.
(Chairman of the Council)

MRS. M. COOPER

E. B. GIBBONS, A.M.I.G.E., M.INST.F.

A. E. MORRIS, A.M.I.PROD.E.

MISS E. K. PEARSON

H. C. ROBERTS, B.SC.

T. WELLS

J. H. WHITWORTH

BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

J. H. DONNELLY, T.D., L.R.C.S. (Ed.), L.R.C.P. (Ed.), L.R.F.P. & S. (Glas.), D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

* H. J. PARKER, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.R.S.I., M.INST.P.C. (Retired March 1957)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

⁺ * C. H. CRAWFORD, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.S.I.B.
(Appointed Chief Public Health Inspector June 1957)

† * K. WILLIAMS, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.S.I.B.
(Appointed to commence 1st January 1958)

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

⁺ * H. P. GRAYSHON, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.S.I.B.

† * D. A. FOGG, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Student Public Health Inspectors:

E. LEES

N. MILLINER

Veterinary Surgeons:

D. J. ANTHONY, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., F.R.S.H.

D. HOWIE, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., F.R.S.H.

Analyst:

A. HOULBROOKE, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., County Buildings, Stafford.

Deputy Analyst:

MISS J. D. PEDEN, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., County Buildings, Stafford.
(Resigned August 1957)

MR. G. B. THACKRAY appointed to fill vacancy

Clerical Staff:

F. L. BILLS (Chief Clerk)

MRS. M. G. ANDERSON, MISS M. L. DANIELS,

MRS. J. LAWLEY, MRS. J. WRIGHT (Commenced January 1957)

* Holds Meat and Food Certificates.

⁺ Holds Smoke Inspectors Certificate.

BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1957

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BRIERLEY HILL.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1957.

Infectious diseases notifications for the year are the highest since 1947. Measles were responsible for the large increase, there being 578 cases pre-school age, and 483 cases at school age.

Two cases of Paratyphoid B were notified. The source of infection was traced to canal water: precautions were immediately taken and the matter brought under control.

No cases of Poliomyelitis were recorded during the period under review. It is interesting to report that during the year more than 50% of the selected age groups entitled to be vaccinated have been protected.

The tuberculosis notification rate was the lowest ever. In 1953 the number was 81; since then there has been a downward trend to 34 in 1957. A survey by the Dudley Mass Radiography Unit began late in December 1957 and continued until February 1958: the results of this will be shown in my annual report for 1958.

There have been no cases of Food Poisoning in the neighbourhood, or imported from outside. This is evidence of the continued care and supervision of all food premises.

Deaths from cancer totalled 89, the same as the previous year. In 1956 cancer of the lungs and bronchus caused 16 deaths—the 1957 figure is 23, an increase of 44% and the highest recorded.

To members of the Council, Mr. Crawford, Officers, and the staff of the Department, I again wish to express appreciation for their willing co-operation.

J. H. DONNELLY,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

Statistics

Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid 1957)	..	..	51,180
Area (in acres)	..	..	5,851
Rateable Value	..	..	£459,653
Sum represented by Penny Rate 1957-58	..	..	£1,786

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1957

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Live Births: Legitimate	..	..	..	..	825	437	388
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	9	4	5
					834	441	393

Birth Rate per 1,000 population	..	16.30
Area Comparability Factor	..	0.96
Standardized Birth Rate	..	15.65

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Still Births: Legitimate	..	..	..	..	24	10	14
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
					25	11	14

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still Births)	29.10
Rate per 1,000 population (Still Births)	0.49

						<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	486	254	232
Death rate per 1,000 population					..	9.50		
Area Comparability Factor					..	1.25		
Standardized Death Rate					..	11.86		

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	13	..	15.59
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Births	..		13	..	15.76
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Births	..		—	..	—

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	89
Deaths from Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	6

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The Standardized Birth Rate of 15.65 compares with that of 13.55 for the year 1956. It is lower than the rate for England and Wales, which is 16.1.

Deaths

The Standardised Death Rate of 11.87 is slightly higher than that of 11.86 for 1956, there being 9 more deaths. The death rate per 1,000 home population in England and Wales is 11.5.

The most frequent causes continue to be Heart Disease, Intracranial Vascular Lesions, Cancer and Bronchitis. These categories account for 353 deaths.

Natural Increase of Population

The number of Births exceeded the number of Deaths by 348.

Infantile Mortality

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 15.59 per 1,000 live births compares with 24.8 for England and Wales. The improvement in the figure for 1957 is quite marked and reflects on the high standard of care and treatment of children under the age of 1-year.

It is gratifying to note that there is still a decrease in the number of infantile deaths—the tendency is shown below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Live Births</i>	<i>Congenital Conditions</i>	<i>Non- Congenital Conditions</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 Live Births</i>
1950	769	7	12	19	24.71
1951	749	9	11	20	26.70
1952	762	15	9	24	31.51
1953	773	9	8	17	21.99
1954	744	10	8	18	24.19
1955	666	11	6	17	25.53
1956	710	10	5	15	21.13
1957	834	4	9	13	15.59

Maternal Mortality

No maternal deaths were recorded during the year.

TABLE I
INFANTILE MORTALITY—TOTAL DEATHS 13

	Pre-maturity		Congenital Conditions		Birth Accident		Broncho-Pneumonia		Cerebral Haemorrhage		Uræmia	Total under 4-weeks		Total under 1-year	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	F
0-1 week ..	—	2	—	2	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	2	6	2	6
1-2 weeks ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-3 weeks ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3-4 weeks ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
1-2 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-3 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3-4 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4-5 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-6 months ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
6-7 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7-8 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8-9 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
9-10 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
10-11 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11-12 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	—	2	1	3	1	—	—	3	1	1	1	2	7	4	9

TABLE II
CAUSES OF DEATH
REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN

Disease	1957		Total
	Male	Female	
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4	2	6
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	8	6	14
Malignant Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus	21	2	23
Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	—	10	10
Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus	—	3	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	14	25	39
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	3	1	4
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	36	38	74
Coronary Disease—Angina	36	18	54
Hypertension with Heart Disease	7	6	13
Other Heart Disease	21	41	62
Other Circulatory Disease	10	6	16
Influenza	6	5	11
Pneumonia	7	6	13
Bronchitis	37	8	45
Other diseases of Respiratory System	3	2	5
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	3	6
Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea	—	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	4	7
Hyperplasia of Prostate	4	—	4
Pregnancy—Childbirth, Abortion	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	1	3	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	20	33	53
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	2	5
All other accidents	6	7	13
Suicide	1	—	1
Homicide and operations of War	—	—	—
All causes	254	232	486

TABLE III
NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1957

Disease	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over	Age Un- known	Total	Rate per 1,000 pop. 1957	Rate per 1,000 pop. 1956
Scarlet Fever	—	1	—	—	2	12	1	—	—	—	16	0.31	0.18
Whooping Cough	6	4	4	8	5	34	3	—	1	—	65	1.27	2.66
Measles	38	108	123	156	153	479	2	2	1	1	1063	20.77	0.02
Dysentery	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0.02	0.06
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	0.04	0.04
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	10	—	12	0.23	0.12
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	0.04	0.02
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	0.04	0.02
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	4	0.08	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1957

Diphtheria

The Table produced is extremely interesting as indicating the trend of public interest in relation to immunisation against this disease.

TABLE IV

<i>Population</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>NOTIFICATIONS</i>			<i>No. of Deaths</i>
		<i>Received</i>	<i>Confirmed</i>	<i>Not Confirmed</i>	
44,500	1944	62	48	14	4
44,410	1945	106	86	20	4
46,190	1946	34	33	1	2
47,060	1947	30	22	8	2
48,250	1948	21	17	4	1
48,490	1949	4	2	2	—
48,900	1950	5	2	3	—
48,690	1951	2	1	1	—
48,730	1952	3	1	2	—
48,970	1953	4	2	2	1
49,350	1954	—	—	—	—
49,740	1955	1	—	1	—
50,280	1956	—	—	—	—
51,180	1957	—	—	—	—

Immunisation

Immunisation has been carried out by Doctors in the area, and routine immunisation, or re-immunisation of entrants has been carried out in the Schools, while younger children have been dealt with at Infant Welfare Centres of the County Council.

Smallpox

Although there is a marked increase in the number of children vaccinated, it is discouraging at the same time that the total is very low. It is a pity that so little advantage is taken of this important protection against this disease.

TABLE V

<i>Year</i>	<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Vaccinations</i>	<i>% of Live Births</i>
1954	744	117	15.72
1955	666	109	16.36
1956	710	165	23.24
1957	834	225	26.98

TUBERCULOSIS

Notifications

31 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 3 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were received during the year.

Deaths

There were 6 deaths as compared with 5 deaths in 1956.

TABLE VI

	<i>MALES</i>		<i>FEMALES</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
Number of Tuberculosis cases on Register at the 1st January, 1957	268	44	226	53	591
New Notifications	15	—	15	3	33
Number restored to Register having been previously removed	—	—	—	—	—
Cases brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification	—	—	1	—	1
Number removed from Register 1957	16	1	12	1	30
Number on Register at 31st December, 1957	267	43	230	55	595

AGE AND SEX OF NEW CASES, DEATHS, AND RECOVERIES FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1957

TABLE VII

Years	New Cases				Cases removed from Register due to death				Cases removed from Register due to recovery			
	Males		Females		Males		Females		Males		Females	
	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary
0—1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1
—25	6	—	9	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—
—35	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
—45	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
—55	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
—65	2	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total	15	—	16	3	4	—	2	—	7	1	7	1

TABLE VIII
TUBERCULOSIS
Notifications for the following Years:

Year	Population	Males		Females		Total
		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
1936	45,490	34	14	18	9	75
1937	45,880	34	9	26	11	80
1938	46,360	23	8	18	4	53
1939	46,360	26	3	21	3	53
1940	44,340	29	6	19	5	59
1941	45,000	33	5	20	4	62
1942	45,000	28	3	19	3	53
1943	45,000	29	3	18	5	55
1944	44,500	24	5	31	1	61
1945	44,410	31	4	21	5	61
1946	46,190	26	4	37	7	74
1947	47,060	26	4	30	6	66
1948	48,250	21	3	25	3	52
1949	48,490	34	1	25	3	63
1950	48,900	30	2	21	2	55
1951	48,690	39	—	26	5	70
1952	48,730	26	2	22	7	57
1953	48,970	43	2	33	3	81
1954	49,350	28	3	32	2	65
1955	49,740	41	1	15	—	57
1956	50,280	29	—	19	—	48
1957	51,180	15	—	16	3	34

TABLE VIIIA
Deaths from Tuberculosis for each of the following years:

Year	Population	Males		Females		Total
		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
1936	45,490	16	5	9	5	35
1937	45,880	22	2	3	4	31
1938	46,360	27	2	5	1	35
1939	46,360	—	—	—	—	31
1940	44,340	—	—	—	—	34
1941	45,000	—	—	—	—	32
1942	45,000	—	—	—	—	37
1943	45,000	—	—	—	—	39
1944	44,500	19	1	9	3	32
1945	44,410	13	1	17	2	33
1946	46,190	17	2	16	1	36
1947	47,060	9	2	17	1	29
1948	48,250	12	—	15	1	28
1949	48,490	17	5	16	3	41
1950	48,900	9	1	8	3	21
1951	48,690	15	1	8	1	25
1952	48,730	10	1	9	—	20
1953	48,970	6	1	4	2	13
1954	49,350	6	1	1	2	10
1955	49,740	3	—	5	—	8
1956	50,280	2	1	2	—	5
1957	51,180	4	—	2	—	6

TABLE IX

Deaths from Malignant Disease (Cancer)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Per cent of total Deaths</i>
1936	45,490	30	24	54	11.38
1937	45,880	29	31	60	11.67
1938	46,360	32	39	71	14.64
1939	46,360	26	28	54	10.65
1940	44,340	35	30	65	10.36
1941	45,000	45	28	73	13.51
1942	45,000	44	25	69	14.28
1943	45,000	29	30	59	11.24
1944	44,500	41	43	84	17.00
1945	44,410	30	38	68	12.64
1946	46,190	30	32	62	12.58
1947	47,060	31	47	78	15.00
1948	48,250	41	38	79	16.99
1949	48,490	41	37	78	13.85
1950	48,900	59	30	89	15.61
1951	48,690	46	33	79	13.62
1952	48,730	41	34	75	14.76
1953	48,970	39	28	67	14.63
1954	49,350	54	30	84	17.61
1955	49,740	50	35	85	16.25
1956	50,280	52	37	89	18.65
1957	51,180	43	46	89	18.31

Deaths from Cancer of the Lungs and Bronchus

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1950	48,900	10	—	10
1951	48,690	9	—	9
1952	48,730	16	1	17
1953	48,970	12	1	13
1954	49,350	15	1	16
1955	49,740	16	—	16
1956	50,280	16	—	16
1957	51,180	21	2	23

TABLE X
Deaths from Tuberculosis, Cancer and Heart and Circulatory Diseases for each of the following years:

Year	Population	Tuberculosis			Cancer			Total Cancer and Tuberculosis	Per cent of Total Deaths	Heart and Circulatory Diseases			Per cent of total Deaths
		Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 Pop.
1936	45,490	21	14	35	0.77	30	24	54	1.18	71	68	139	3.06
1937	45,880	24	7	31	0.68	29	31	60	1.31	70	69	139	3.03
1938	46,360	29	6	35	0.75	32	39	71	1.53	66	71	137	2.96
1939	46,360	—	—	31	0.66	26	28	54	1.16	95	91	186	4.01
1940	44,340	—	—	34	0.77	35	30	65	1.46	75	81	156	3.52
1941	45,000	—	—	32	0.71	45	28	73	1.63	87	82	169	3.71
1942	45,000	—	—	37	0.82	44	25	69	1.53	72	75	147	3.27
1943	45,000	—	—	39	0.87	29	20	59	1.32	88	73	161	3.58
1944	44,500	20	12	32	0.72	41	43	84	1.88	83	67	150	3.37
1945	44,410	14	19	33	0.74	30	38	68	1.52	78	97	175	3.94
1946	46,190	19	17	36	0.78	30	32	62	1.34	75	81	156	3.38
1947	47,060	11	18	29	0.62	31	47	78	1.66	87	88	175	3.72
1948	48,250	12	16	28	0.58	41	38	79	1.64	70	75	145	3.01
1949	48,490	22	19	41	0.85	41	37	78	1.55	97	74	171	3.53
1950	48,900	10	11	21	0.43	59	30	89	1.82	116	98	214	4.38
1951	48,690	16	9	25	0.51	46	33	79	1.62	139	116	255	5.24
1952	48,730	11	9	20	0.41	41	34	75	1.53	110	94	204	4.18
1953	48,970	7	6	13	0.27	39	28	67	1.37	89	100	189	3.86
1954	49,350	7	3	10	0.20	54	30	84	1.70	102	99	201	4.07
1955	49,740	3	5	8	0.16	50	35	85	1.71	94	113	207	4.16
1956	50,280	3	2	5	0.10	52	37	89	1.77	102	104	206	4.1
1957	51,180	4	2	6	0.12	43	46	89	1.74	110	109	219	4.28

Total Deaths from all Causes

1936	..	483	..	1942	..	483	..	1948	..	465	1953	..	458
1937	..	514	..	1943	..	525	..	1949	..	563	1954	..	477
1938	..	485	..	1944	..	494	..	1950	..	570	1955	..	523
1939	..	507	..	1945	..	538	..	1951	..	580	1956	..	477
1940	..	531	..	1946	..	493	..	1952	..	508	1957	..	486
1941	..	538	..	1947	..	520	..						

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The County Council through its Area Medical Officer is responsible for the administration of the following health services:

- Health Centres
- Care of Mothers and Young Children
- Midwifery
- Health Visiting
- Home Nursing
- Prevention of illness, care and after care
- Domestic Help
- Vaccination and Immunisation
- Ambulance Service
- Mental Health Service

Close liaison between this Department and the Area Health Office was maintained.

Hospitals

Administration of Hospitals and Specialist Services is the responsibility of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

The Hospitals serving the district are as follows:

- Wordsley Hospital, Brierley Hill
- Guest Hospital, Dudley.
- Corbett Hospital, Amblecote.

Other Hospitals within easy reach are those of Birmingham and Wolverhampton.

Cases of infectious diseases are referred to Isolation Hospitals, *e.g.*, Moxley Hospital, Wednesbury and Hayley Green Hospital, Halesowen.

Maternity and Nursing Homes

There are no Nursing Homes in the area. Maternity cases are admitted to Wordsley Hospital, and to the Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home at Dudley.

Tuberculosis

Sanatoria are provided at Kinver, Groundslo, Prestwood, and Himley. Cases of surgical tuberculosis are treated at Standon Hall and The Woodlands. Dispensaries are situated at Dudley and Wolverhampton.

Post Mortem Room

57 bodies were admitted to the Post Mortem Room during the year. The causes of death were as follows:

Natural causes	..	..	36
Asphyxia	..	..	2
Accident	..	..	2
Cause unknown	..	..	17
(out of area)			

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service continues to deal with the pathological and bacteriological specimens sent from this area.

The chemical analysis of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act is undertaken by the County Analyst, who acts for the Urban District.

National Assistance Act

No action was required under Section 47 of this Act which provides for compulsory removal to hospital of those unable to look after themselves.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Water Supply

The District is served by two Companies. The Stourbridge and District Water Board supply 2,550 houses at Wordsley, while the rest of the area is served by the South Staffordshire Water Board. In both cases the supply comes from deep wells and bore-holes in the new red sandstone to depths varying from 200 feet to 500 feet. The water is examined regularly and has continued to be of a high standard of purity.

The following are typical analyses:

STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive coli) after
48-hours incubation at 37 deg. Cent. .. Nil per 100 M.L.

Analysis

pH Value	..	..	..	..	..	7.5
						<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Total solid matter dried at 212 deg. F.	..					36.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Albuminoid	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	..	0.55
Chlorine present as Chloride	..	..	..	..	..	3.00
Oxygen absorbed in 4-hours at 80 deg. F.	..					Nil
Appearance	..	..	..	..	..	Clear and colourless
Metallic Contamination	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Total Hardness	..	..	..	..	..	13.9 deg.
Permanent Hardness	..	..	..	..	..	5.6 deg.
Temporary Hardness	..	..	..	..	..	8.3 deg.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATER BOARD

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive coli) after
48-hours incubation at 37 deg. Cent. .. Nil per 100 M.L.

Analysis

pH Value 7.1

Parts per 100,000

Total solid matter dried at 212 deg. F.	..	57.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	.. ..	0.0004
Albuminoid	.. ..	0.0004
Nitric Nitrogen	.. ..	1.00
Chlorine present as Chloride	.. ..	4.90
Oxygen absorbed in 4-hours at 80-degs. F.	..	0.012
Appearance	.. ..	Clear and colourless
Metallic Contamination	.. ..	Nil
Total Hardness	.. ..	36.8 deg.
Permanent Hardness	.. ..	24.1 deg.
Temporary Hardness	.. ..	12.7 deg.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal

The Surveyor states that during the year the second part of the relief sewer at Dawley Brook, Kingswinford, was completed, and a storm water sewer extension was laid at Cot Lane, Kingswinford.

Public Cleansing

The Chief Public Health Inspector is also the Cleansing Superintendent and details of the work carried out will be found in his report.

SECTION D**HOUSING**

The Architect and Housing Director has kindly supplied the following information:

During the year 203 houses have been completed, of which 50 were 'Unity' New Traditional.

The total of post-war dwellings completed is now as follows:

2,249 Permanent Traditional	} Total
248 Permanent New Traditional	
46 Permanent New Traditional Flats	
40 Permanent Aluminium Bungalows	
24 Temporary Aluminium Bungalows	
100 Temporary Asbestos Bungalows	} 2,710
3 Shops	

655 houses were completed in 1957 and 394 were in course of construction at the end of the year—the breakdown of these figures is:

	1957	<i>Total</i>	1956	<i>Total</i>	<i>Inc. over 1956</i>
Council houses completed	203	—	202	—	—
Private houses completed	452	655	323	525	130
Council houses under construction	182	—	139	—	—
Private houses under construction	212	394	202	341	53
Total Post-War Council houses . .	2,710	—	2,507	—	—
Total Post-War Private houses . .	1,527	4,237	1,075	3,582	655

The increase in building is very gratifying as this has afforded so much increased accommodation and better living conditions.

SECTION E

LIVE AND DEAD MEAT INSPECTION

Two Veterinary Officers are employed by the Council to inspect live animals and carcasses at a large factory in the area.

The Chief Veterinary Surgeon reports as follows:

With the relative decline in the importance of tuberculosis in the animals inspected, comes an increase in pneumonia and inflammatory conditions. This is particularly noticeable in the case of pigs, amongst which animals the incidence of Virus Pneumonia is still very high. This is largely due to inefficient animal management, and faulty buildings for the housing of animals; more especially to an almost incredible absence of common sense regarding the need for a warm, dry, draught-free place for animals to sleep in.

During the year material for Research and Teaching was supplied to the University of Liverpool Zoology Department, The Royal Veterinary College & Hospital, University of London, The Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the Anatomy Department of St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School.

In April the Chief Veterinary Surgeon was invited to fly to Washington D.C. to give evidence before a Congressional Committee on Humane Slaughtering, with particular reference to electrical anaesthesia, which was pioneered in this country at Brierley Hill. Whilst Humane Slaughtering Laws have existed and been smoothly enforced in Britain for over a quarter of a century, no such laws exist in the United States.

TABLE XI

The following table shows the diseases encountered, and the carcases and organs condemned during veterinary meat inspection of

PIGS

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Carcases</i>	<i>Heads</i>	<i>Lungs</i>	<i>Hearts</i>	<i>Livers</i>	<i>Stomachs</i>	<i>Spleens</i>	<i>Kidneys</i>	<i>Intestines</i>	<i>Other Parts</i>
Tuberculosis ..	71	3928	3178	3178	3181	2862	1799	142	5148	23 Forequarters
Strongylosis ..	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pleurisy and Pneumonia ..	45	45	28627	45	45	45	45	90	45	15 Forequarters
Pericarditis ..	1	1	1	8802	1	1	1	2	1	—
Endocarditis ..	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Myocarditis ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis ..	—	—	—	—	6051	—	—	—	—	—
Fatty Infiltration ..	—	—	—	—	3610	—	—	—	—	—
Congestion ..	—	—	15438	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatid Cysts ..	—	—	45	—	115	—	57	—	—	—
Peritonitis ..	68	68	68	68	6921	3872	2805	136	7924	7 Hindquarters
Hydronephrosis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21829	—	29 Forequarters, 82 Hindquarters
Abscess ..	—	41	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Swine Erysipelas ..	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	64	32	—
Pyæmia ..	52	23	16	16	16	16	16	104	16	—
Empyæmia ..	12	12	227	227	12	12	12	24	12	286 Forequarters
Nephritis ..	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	55	14	—
Fractures ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 Forequarters, 38 Hindquarters
Bruising ..	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	3 Forequarters, 12 Hindquarters

PIGS—(continued)

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Carcasses</i>	<i>Heads</i>	<i>Lungs</i>	<i>Hearts</i>	<i>Livers</i>	<i>Stomachs</i>	<i>Spleens</i>	<i>Kidneys</i>	<i>Intestines</i>	<i>Other Parts</i>
Oedema ..	8	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Septicaemia ..	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	48	24	—
Jaundice ..	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	28	14	—
Fascioliasis ..	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
Haemangioma ..	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—
Contamination ..	1	14	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	29 Forequarters, 4 Hindquarters
Lympho-sarcoma ..	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Lipomata ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arthritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8 Forequarters, 6 Hindquarters
Variola suis ..	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Gangrene ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Ascariides ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Hepatitis ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Swine Fever ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Dead in transit ..	211	211	211	211	211	211	211	422	211	—
Dead in lairage ..	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	86	43	—
Totals ..	608	4479	47955	12694	20328	7155	5082	23048	13493	396 Forequarters 149 Hindquarters

TABLE XI (continued)
Diseases, and organs condemned during veterinary meat inspection of :
SHEEP

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Carcasses</i>	<i>Heads</i>	<i>Lungs</i>	<i>Hearts</i>	<i>Livers</i>	<i>Stomachs</i>	<i>Spleens</i>	<i>Kidneys</i>	<i>Intestines</i>	<i>Other Parts</i>
Muelleriasis	—	—	97	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pleurisy and Pneumonia ..	—	—	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Fascioliasis	—	—	—	—	492	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatid Cysts	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Abscess	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fatty Infiltration	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	2 Forequarters, 1 Hindquarters
Peritonitis	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—
Mastitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Udder
Septicaemia	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—
Jaundice	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—
Contamination	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bruising	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Forequarter
Dead in transit	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	38	19	—
Total	26	32	172	26	533	26	26	52	26	3 Forequarters 1 Hindquarter, 1 Udder

TABLE XI—*continued*
Diseases found, and meat condemned during veterinary meat inspection of
CATTLE

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Carcases</i>	<i>Heads</i>	<i>Lungs</i>	<i>Hearts</i>	<i>Livers</i>	<i>Stomachs</i>	<i>Spleens</i>	<i>Kidneys</i>	<i>Intestines</i>	<i>Other Parts</i>
Tuberculosis	2	38	49	34	12	3	4	6	38	9 Forequarters
Pleurisy and Pneumonia ..	—	—	95	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis	—	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fascioliasis	—	—	—	—	337	—	—	—	—	—
Bacterial Necrosis	—	—	14	—	54	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatid Cysts	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Peritonitis	—	—	—	—	19	4	11	—	2	—
Actinobacillosis	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 Tongues
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fractures	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Forequarter
Cysticercus B.	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fatty Infiltration	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bruising	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Forequarter
Abscess	—	1	1	1	10	—	—	—	—	—
Contamination	—	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haemangiona	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Toxaemia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Septicaemia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Dead in transit	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Total	5	61	163	62	446	10	18	12	43	11 Forequarters, 2 Tongues

TABLE XI (continued)

Veterinary inspection of

CALVES

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Carcasses</i>	<i>Heads</i>	<i>Lungs</i>	<i>Hearts</i>	<i>Livers</i>	<i>Stomachs</i>	<i>Spleens</i>	<i>Kidneys</i>	<i>Intestines</i>	<i>Other Parts</i>
Contamination	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abscess	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dead in transit	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—
Total	3	4	5	3	3	3	3	6	3	—

TABLE XII

The relative importance of the diseases encountered in the various species of animals, is shown in the following tables of percentages to the total number killed:

PIGS	CATTLE
Pneumonia and Pleurisy 12.0%	Fascioliasis 10.0%
Hydronephrosis .. 9.0%	Pleurisy and Pneumonia 4.0%
Congestion of Lungs, etc. 7.0%	Tuberculosis 2.0%
Pericarditis 3.0%	Bact. Necrosis 2.0%
Peritonitis 3.0%	Pericarditis 1.0%
Cirrhosis 3.0%	Hydatid Cysts 0.8%
Tuberculosis 2.0%	Peritonitis 0.8%
Fatty Infiltration .. 1.0%	Abscess 0.5%
Empyæma 0.09%	Actinobacillosis .. 0.4%
Abscess 0.06%	Cysticercus B. 0.3%
Hydatid Cysts 0.05%	Contamination 0.2%
Pyæmia 0.04%	Haemangioma 0.1%
Nephritis 0.02%	Cirrhosis 0.04%
Contamination 0.02%	Fractures 0.04%
Fractures 0.01%	Fatty Infiltration .. 0.04%
Swine Erysipelas .. 0.01%	Bruising 0.04%
Septicæmia 0.009%	Toxæmia 0.04%
Bruising 0.007%	Septicæmia 0.04%
Arthritis 0.005%	
Jaundice 0.005%	Dead in transit 0.04%
Endocarditis 0.004%	
Oedema 0.003%	
Haemangioma 0.003%	
Fascioliasis 0.002%	
Strongylosis 0.002%	
Variola suis 0.0008%	
Lympho-sarcoma .. 0.0008%	
Myocarditis 0.0004%	
Lypoma 0.0004%	
Gangrene 0.0004%	
Ascarides 0.0004%	
Hepatitis 0.0004%	
Paratyphoid 0.0004%	
Swine Fever 0.0004%	
Dead in transit 0.1%	
Dead in lairage 0.02%	

Percentage of disease found in:

SHEEP	CALVES
Fascioliasis 6.0%	Abscess 0.4%
Muelleriasis 1.0%	Contamination 0.4%
Pleurisy and Pneumonia 0.6%	Pleurisy and Pneumonia 0.4%
Peritonitis 0.08%	Dead in transit 1.0%
Fatty Infiltration .. 0.05%	
Abscess 0.05%	
Contamination 0.04%	
Hydatid Cysts 0.03%	
Septicaemia 0.03%	
Jaundice 0.03%	
Pericarditis 0.01%	
Bruising 0.01%	
Mastitis 0.01%	
Dead in transit 0.2%	

TABLE XIII

The following table shows the diseases, and number of animals on which post-mortem examination was held following natural death in transit to the abattoir, or on arrival at the lairages:

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Internal haemorrhage	1	—	3	16	20
Brucellosis	—	3	—	—	3
Drowning (Accident)	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia and Pleurisy	—	2	2	60	64
Hernia	—	—	1	—	1
Toxaemia and Impaction	—	—	10	32	42
Dystokia	—	—	2	—	2
Fascioliasis	—	—	1	—	1
Peritonitis	—	—	—	2	2
Syncope	—	—	—	94	94
Septicaemia	—	—	—	1	1
Enteritis	—	—	—	2	2
Bone Fractures (Accident)	—	—	—	34	34
Pericarditis	—	—	—	2	2
Oedema	—	—	—	1	1
Totals	1	6	19	244	270

Poultry, 7. Cause of Death: Fowl Paralysis. Blow and Fractured Neck. Anaemia. Coccidiosis.

TABLE XIV

Table showing the total weight of the meat condemned during veterinary inspection for the year.

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Ozs.</i>
Imported meat from overseas ..	—	11	3	19	—
Home killed meat:					
Beef	6	14	1	4	8
Veal	—	—	—	11	—
Mutton	—	17	3	13	8
Pork, etc.	159	7	1	12	11
Condemned meat from other areas	55	6	1	4	13
Total	222	17	3	9	8

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

This report for 1957 covers a period during which I was your Acting Chief Public Health Inspector due to the illness and retirement of Mr. H. J. Parker and the latter half of the year when I succeeded him.

Tribute was paid to Mr. Parker on his retirement and on the occasion of his untimely death but I feel that his achievements during his 45 years in Brierley Hill must be put on record.

- (1) He was responsible for slum clearance to a total of over 2,700 houses.
- (2) He set a high standard in Brierley Hill for Meat Inspection and Food Hygiene.
- (3) The cause of Smoke Abatement was vigorously pursued.
- (4) An efficient refuse collection and street cleansing service was established and maintained, with disposal by controlled tipping at The Leys.
- (5) The collection of salvage contributed much to the war effort and to the Council's income.

In contemplating this record, I feel that I am privileged to follow Mr. Parker in serving the Council. Alterations and improvements will occur from time to time, but these will not detract from his achievements.

Last year I reported staffing difficulties. It is now pleasing to report that a full establishment should be available in 1958.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their confidence and support during the year. I have also received co-operation and assistance from my colleagues in my own and all other Departments.

Details of the year's work are set out in the following pages.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Complaints

497 complaints were received as compared with 517 in 1956. 267 of these concerned drain stoppages, which were promptly dealt with by a workman from this Department. No charge is made for this service.

Drain stoppages	267
General defects to houses	160
Industrial nuisances, noise, etc.	4
Accumulations	7
Offensive odours	21
Overcrowding	4
Insect infestation	12
Roadside caravan dwellers	1
Smoke nuisances	8
Miscellaneous	13

Action taken—

Informal Notices	302
--------------------------	-----

Statutory Notices

Section 24	1
Section 39	6
Section 45	1
Section 93	61

In one case work was carried out in default under Section 39 at a cost of £2 19s. 0d. Legal proceedings were taken and a Nuisance Order obtained in respect of 2 houses, a fine of £2 2s. 0d. with costs being imposed by the Magistrate. The work was carried out by the Council at a cost of £31 10s. 0d.

Clean Air

The Clean Air Act, 1956 came into force in part on the 20th December, 1956. All Local Authorities were given the power to make Smoke Control Orders prohibiting any smoke emissions in the areas covered by the Orders. The Council have long recognised that such powers would really enable the air to be cleaned up and therefore agreed that as soon as staff was available the Tack Farm and the Birch Tree Coppice Estates should be declared Smoke Control Areas. It is important that this should be done so that as new houses are built in country areas, new smoke pollution will be kept to a minimum.

Smoke Control Orders will deal primarily with dwelling houses. So far as industry is concerned, they have now to notify the Council of any new furnaces to be installed and any such furnaces must be smokeless in operation. Industrialists may also ask for prior approval and the Council welcomes applications for this. Two such applications were approved, one for a brick kiln and one for a vertical boiler both fired with coal by mechanical underfeed stokers.

It is now possible to control the height of new factory chimneys so as to prevent nuisances arising from smoke, grit, dust or gases. It is hoped that this will eliminate the type of unfortunate occurrences experienced in years past when extensive damage was caused to gardens by the discharge of sulphur dioxide from low chimneys.

The Council have also exercised their powers under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act to amend the Building Bye-Laws to ensure that houses built after 1st July, 1957 will be fitted with heating and cooking appliances designed to burn gas, electricity, coke or anthracite or with other appliances specially exempted, *e.g.*, oil fired installations.

At the beginning of the year a general circular was sent out to local industrialists, builders, architects and estate agents to draw their attention to the requirements of the Act. The Department has continued to examine plans submitted to the Council so that any possible pollution can be anticipated and prevented.

Nuisance due to grit from the chimneys of a large boiler plant was abated by the installation of grit arresting apparatus in the boiler flues.

Owing to building operations, the Civic Offices use of the volumetric smoke recorder was discontinued in July. Results up to this date and the results of the lead peroxide sulphur dioxide recorders are shown in the tables 1 and 11.

TABLE I
LEAD PEROXIDE SO₂ RECORDERS
Results as Mg. of SO₃/Day collected by 100 sq. cm.

1957	Station Number					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
January	2.28	1.50	2.87	1.87	2.20	1.71
February	2.54	1.37	1.99	2.19	2.58	1.52
March	2.48	1.33	1.10	1.87	1.80	1.16
April	2.24	1.16	1.98	1.09	2.30	1.59
May	1.96	0.91	1.39	1.11	1.78	1.27
June	1.72	0.81	1.04	0.92	2.20	—
July	1.42	0.69	0.82	0.75	1.09	—
August	1.52	0.67	0.59	0.65	1.16	0.49
September	2.10	0.92	1.70	0.91	2.02	1.39
October	2.61	1.44	1.52	1.02	1.93	1.56
November	2.70	1.46	2.47	1.33	2.78	1.82
December	2.41	2.24	2.20	1.91	2.60	2.00
Yearly Average:						
1957	2.16	1.22	1.64	1.30	2.04	1.45
1956	1.85	1.29	1.47	1.51	1.31	1.81

TABLE II

**CONCENTRATION OF SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE
BY VOLUMETRIC APPARATUS**

Smoke expressed as milligrams per 100 cubic metres.

Sulphur Dioxide expressed as parts per 100 million parts of air.

1957	<i>Smoke</i>		<i>Sulphur Dioxide</i>	
	<i>Monthly Average</i>	<i>Highest Daily Average</i>	<i>Monthly Average</i>	<i>Highest Daily Average</i>
January	16.7	28.9	7.8	17.1
February	14.0	22.0	6.9	16.5
March	10.2	15.4	5.1	7.4
April	11.2	18.4	6.0	10.8
May	8.4	16.7	4.6	7.8
June	5.4	10.9	4.1	10.3
July	4.7	9.0	2.0	4.5
August to December Discontinued ..	—	—	—	—
Yearly Average				
1957 (Jan.—July)	10.1	—	5.2	—
1956	19.2	—	5.3	—

Water Supplies

Samples of the water supply from the public mains and swimming pool were submitted for analysis as follows:

	<i>Chemical</i>	<i>Bacteriological</i>
The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company	3	3
Stourbridge & District Water Board ..	3	3
Wordsley Hospital	3	6
Swimming Pool	4	17

Swimming Pools

In order to exercise greater control over swimming pool premises, Bye-Laws were adopted. The Bye-Laws are in line with the model Bye-Laws of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and make provisions for ensuring the purity of water in the bath, for ensuring the adequacy and cleanliness of the accommodation, for the prevention of accidents, and for regulating the conduct of persons resorting to the bath.

The Bye-Laws will come into force on June 1st, 1958.

Sewage Effluent

Three samples of effluent from the Council's Sewage Farm were submitted for chemical analysis. The results were satisfactory in two samples but unsatisfactory in the third.

Infectious Disease Prevention

79 visits were made to cases of Infectious Disease, 23 houses were disinfected.

3 houses were sprayed for the elimination of bed bugs, 6 for fleas and 25 for cockroaches, ants, etc.

Paratyphoid B

Investigations into two cases of this disease pointed to the possibility that the children concerned had become infected when they fell into a disused canal basin at The Wallows, Brierley Hill. Swabs were therefore put into the canal at various points and examination after three days exposure revealed the presence of paratyphoid B of the same type phasing as that isolated from the patients. Closer inspection revealed the presence of periodic discharges of sewage from storm overflows connected to foul sewers in Dudley County Borough whose boundary meets Brierley Hill at this point.

Dudley Public Health Department was therefore notified and steps were immediately taken to reduce, as far as practicable, the possibility of further sewage discharges. An attempt was also made to sterilise the canal water by adding 1,500 gallons of hypochlorite, circulation being assisted by Fire Brigade pumps. Residual chlorine was checked by means of orthotolidine reagent and was effective in some parts but not throughout the whole length. Undoubtedly this was a difficult water to chlorinate due to the presence of vegetation and mud. Measures to prevent further pollution, however, proved more successful than was expected and at the end of the year swabs from the canal had no paratyphoid present.

The whole question of sewer storm overflows is a problem with which the Dudley County Borough Council, this Council and the Upper Stour Valley Main Drainage Board have had to consider as a matter of urgency, and schemes for enlarging sewers are now proposed.

In all 42 swabs were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Stafford and much time was spent in tracing possible sources of pollution of this canal and of streams in the district.

Pollution of a different nature was noticed in the canal at Brockmoor where a foul smell was evolved during hot weather. Samples of the water revealed the presence of sulphates with iron and it was concluded that sulphuretted hydrogen was the cause of the smell. The matter was referred to the British Transport Waterways and to the Severn Rivers Board.

Moveable Dwellings

Licencees operative during the year were as follows:

				<i>Number of</i>	
				<i>Licences</i>	<i>Caravans</i>
Kingfisher Camping Site, Wallheath	1	150			
11, Mount Pleasant, Kingswinford	1	1			
112, Mount Pleasant, Kingswinford	1	1			
Woods Lane, Quarry Bank	1	12			
6, Dunns Bank, Quarry Bank	1	1			
"May View," Thorns Road, Quarry Bank	2	2			
"The Woodlands," Cot Lane, Wordsley	1	1			
8, Turk Street, Brierley Hill	1	1			
Plantation, Pensnett	1	1			
Poplars Dairy, Brierley Hill Road, Wordsley	1	1			
84, Cot Lane, Kingswinford	1	1			
Mile End House, Enville Road, Wallheath	1	1			

One person was fined £5 with £3 3s. 0d. costs for failing to remove a caravan at the expiry of his licence.

HOUSING

No new Clearance Areas were declared during the year, and only 20 Demolition Orders were made compared with 49 in the previous year. Details are given in the pages following and in table III.

It is pleasing to report an improvement in the rate of rehousing of families living in condemned houses, 128 families from 126 houses benefited from this. It is clear, however, that this rate of rehousing should be doubled if the target of the five year slum clearance programme is to be achieved. At the end of the year it was estimated that there were still 975 unfit houses to be dealt with and when it is remembered that many of the houses were scheduled for demolition 20 years ago, the urgency of the problem needs no further stressing. It is unfortunate that this urgent need for new houses coincided with a proposed reduction in the number of houses the Government would permit the Council to build and with a continuing reduction in the number of houses completed.

DETAILS OF THE YEAR'S WORK

Housing Act, 1936

Section 9

Work was carried out in default under this Section at:

152, High Street, Pensnett Cost £42 0s. 0d.

Section 11 (Demolition Orders)

23 houses were represented as being unfit and 20 Demolition Orders were made on the following:

BRIERLEY HILL

153, Delph Road.

30, Derry Street.

14, 16 and 18, Turners Lane.

40, 42 and 43, Wallows Street.

PENSNETT

72a, Commonsides.

63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, and 75, Queen Street.

BROCKMOOR

18, 19 and 20, High Street.

QUARRY BANK

70, Maughan Street.

The remaining three houses were dealt with by making Closing Orders under Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 in lieu of Demolition Orders.

1, Rocks Hill, Brierley Hill.

17, East Street, Quarry Bank.

14a, Evers Street, Quarry Bank.

The Council accepted three proposals for the conversion of back to back houses, and two applications to make fit substandard houses were approved.

19, Parkes Street, Brierley Hill—Undertaking cancelled.

76, Wallows Street, Brierley Hill—Undertaking cancelled.

12, The Village, Kingswinford—Undertaking cancelled.

87 and 89, Fenton Street, Brierley Hill—Closing Orders rescinded.

TABLE III
HOUSING ACTS
SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN 1930—1957

Year	Section 11		Sec's 10 & 12	Clearance Areas No. of Houses	Informal Action No. of Houses	TOTAL	Houses Closed Section 10, 11 & 12	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
	Demolition Orders	Under- takings							
*1930—1933 ..	143	14	15	54	18	244	12	129	767
1934 ..	50	4	1	10	10	75	1	89	270
1935 ..	266	21	60	60	6	413	39	53	719
1936 ..	281	29	47	142	6	505	39	262	1536
1937 ..	200	15	9	119	4	347	9	358	2053
1938 ..	143	38	6	235	1	423	28	479	1825
1939 ..	74	11	—	—	—	85	6	228	484
1940—1947 ..	8	7	1	—	2	18	8	88	133
1948 ..	4	3	—	—	—	7	3	49	137
1949 ..	12	4	—	—	—	16	4	23	91
1950 ..	31	—	—	—	—	31	—	13	176
1951 ..	22	—	3	—	—	25	3	56	158
1952 ..	67	—	1	—	5	73	—	54	193
1953 ..	25	2	—	17	8	52	—	75	294
1954 ..	64	8	7	16	2	97	13	64	317
1955 ..	64	3	10	159	15	251	12	84	179
1956 ..	49	1	5	—	1	56	8	21	128
1957 ..	20	—	3	—	5	28	6	31	435
	1523	160	168	812	83	2746	191	2156	9895

* Prior to Amalgamation.

Overcrowding

At the end of 1957 there were 21 known cases of statutory overcrowding, as set out in the following table:

					<i>Council Houses</i>	<i>Private Houses</i>	<i>Total</i>
At 31st December, 1956	....	....	....	...	13	18	31
New cases	....	....	....	....	1	—	1
					—	—	—
					14	18	32
Cases abated	....	....	....	....	4	7	11
					—	—	—
Total cases at 31st December, 1957				...	10	11	21
					—	—	—

The following table shows that there were 41 known cases of sex overcrowding at the end of 1957:

					<i>One Bedroom Houses</i>	<i>Two Bedroom Houses</i>	<i>Total</i>
At 31st December, 1956	....	....	....	...	10	34	44
New cases	....	....	....	....	—	2	2
					—	—	—
					10	36	46
Cases abated	....	....	....	....	1	4	5
					—	—	—
Total cases at 31st December, 1957				...	9	32	41
					—	—	—

It must be emphasised that these are only the known cases and are not the result of a general survey of the district. The Housing Act standards are rather lower than many tenants realise since living rooms are included when assessing available accommodation.

Rents Act, 1957

This new Act provided a temporary increase in work dealing with applications for Certificates of Disrepair. The Act provides that the rents of houses which are the subject of Clearance or Demolition Orders cannot be increased but it is perhaps unfortunate that no such protection is afforded to houses scheduled for demolition but in respect of which Orders have not yet been made. There have been some cases where it would have been absurd to spend money on repairs but where the owners have been tempted to do so by the prospect of increased rent. Such repairs would not be sufficient to enable Demolition Orders to be deferred and the owners would not enjoy the increased rents long enough to justify the expense of the repairs. Owners have been, in

most cases, willing to take a reasonable view when the position was fully explained to them. Details of the applications dealt with are shown in the copy of the return made to the Ministry. There is no doubt that increased rents will enable more repairs to be done and strengthen the arm of the Local Authority in enforcing repairs where necessary.

RENT ACT, 1957

FIRST SCHEDULE

Period covered by return: 6th July to 31st December, 1957.

PART I—APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

(1) Number of applications for certificates	63
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	3
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates:	
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	19
(b) in respect of all defects	20
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under Paragraph V of the First Schedule	13
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to Paragraph V of the First Schedule	Nil
(6) Number of certificates issued	34

PART II—APPLICATIONS FOR CANCELLATION OF CERTIFICATES

(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	Nil
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	Nil
(9) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	Nil
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	Nil

Housing Act, 1949

Improvement Grants

10 applications were considered by the Committee; 10 were approved. The value, after deducting items of repair not ranking for grant, was £3,090. 9 of the houses were owner occupied.

The continued lack of interest in this subject leads one to wonder whether compulsory powers should not be given to enable suitable old houses to be modernised when repairs are being considered.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Composition and labelling of Food and Drugs

During the year, 152 samples were forwarded to the Public Analyst. The articles submitted and the result of the analyses are as follows:

Article Analysed	Total Samples		Genuine		Non-Genuine	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Almonds, Ground	—	1	—	1	—	—
Banana Splits	—	1	—	1	—	—
Beef, Corned	—	2	—	2	—	—
Biscuits, Cheese	—	1	—	1	—	—
Biscuits, Digestive	—	1	—	1	—	—
Butter Mint Eclairs	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cheese, Cheshire	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cheese, with Ham	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cheese, Gruyere	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cheese, Spread	1	2	1	1	—	1
Cherries in Syrup	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cinnamon, Essence of	—	1	—	1	—	—
Coconut, desiccated	—	1	—	1	—	—
Coffee and Chicory Essence	—	2	—	2	—	—
Cough Linctus	—	1	—	1	—	—
Crab, Dressed	—	1	—	1	—	—
Crawfish	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cream, Sterilised	—	4	—	4	—	—
Dripping	1	—	1	—	—	—
Farsolate Tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—
Flour Plain, ...	—	1	—	—	—	1
Flour, Self Raising	—	1	—	1	—	—
Fruttol	—	1	—	1	—	—
Glucose Drink	—	1	—	1	—	—
Glycerine and Rosewater	—	1	—	1	—	—
Honey	—	3	—	3	—	—
Ice Cream	3	—	3	—	—	—
Jelly	—	1	—	1	—	—
Lard	—	1	—	1	—	—
Lemon Juice	—	1	—	1	—	—
Lemon Sherbet	—	1	—	1	—	—
Liquid Fruit Pectin	—	1	—	1	—	—
Macprin Tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—
Malt Extract—Cod Liver Oil	—	1	—	1	—	—
Margarine	—	1	—	1	—	—
Margarine with 10% Butter	6	2	6	1	—	1
Marzipan	2	—	—	—	2	—
Melody Mix Sweets	—	1	—	1	—	—
Milk	37	9	37	9	—	—
Mint Sauce	—	1	—	1	—	—
Orangeade	—	2	—	1	—	1
Pear Drops	—	1	—	1	—	—
	50	57	48	53	2	4

Summary of Articles of Food and Drugs submitted to the Public Analyst and the Results of the Analyses—continued

<i>Article Analysed</i>	<i>Total Samples</i>		<i>Genuine</i>		<i>Non-Genuine</i>	
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>
	50	57	48	53	2	4
Peel, Mixed	—	1	—	1	—	—
Peps Tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—
Pineapple	—	1	—	1	—	—
Pork Kidneys	—	1	—	1	—	—
Pork Luncheon Meat	—	1	—	—	—	1
Prunes	—	1	—	1	—	—
Rice	—	1	—	1	—	—
Salad Cream	—	1	—	1	—	—
Salad Dressing	—	1	—	1	—	—
Salmon and Shrimp Paste	—	1	—	1	—	—
Salmon Spread	—	2	—	2	—	—
Sauce	—	1	—	1	—	—
Sausage, Pork	2	—	1	—	1	—
Sausage, Pork containing Preservatives	17	—	17	—	—	—
Sherry, British	—	1	—	1	—	—
Shortening, 10% Butter	—	1	—	1	—	—
Suet, Beef	—	1	—	1	—	—
Sugar Icing, ...	—	1	—	1	—	—
Tea	—	1	—	1	—	—
Tomato Juice	—	2	—	2	—	—
Tomato Ketchup	—	2	—	2	—	—
Turkey, Minced	—	1	—	1	—	—
Vegemite	—	1	—	1	—	—
Vigaroids	—	1	—	1	—	—
Yorkshire Pudding and Pancake Mixture	—	1	—	1	—	—
Total	69	83	66	78	3	5

The Analyst reported adversely on eight samples as follows:

Action taken

Cheese Spread—Informal
Deficient in fat content

Formal sample proved satisfactory.

Flour Plain—Informal
Deficient in creta praeparata

Referred to Chief Public Health Inspector in production area—error in mixing admitted.

Margarine with 10% Butter—Informal
Contained only 7.75 butter

Formal sample taken—satisfactory.

Orangcade—Informal
Sediment in bottle

Samples of washed bottles from factory were satisfactory.

Action taken

Pork Luncheon Meat—Informal
Deficient in meat content

Packed in Belfast—promised to
review quality and amend labels.

Sausage Pork—Formal
6.6% deficient in meat content

Butcher concerned warned. Rep-
resentations made to Ministry to
prescribe standard.

Marzipan—Formal
Contained 15.6% of ground almonds

Legal proceedings instituted. Fined
£7, plus £7 7s. 0d. costs.

Marzipan—Formal
Contained 8% of ground almonds

Fined £15, plus £7 7s. 0d. costs.

Slaughterhouses

The Public Health Inspectors continued to inspect all animals slaughtered in the eight small slaughterhouses belonging to local butchers. Much of this slaughtering was carried out after office hours, and the butchers continued to co-operate by holding the meat until such time as it had been inspected. The butchers can be said to be as keen as the Council to see that all meat they sell is inspected before sale even though this results in occasional financial loss to them.

TABLE IV

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	751	158	63	4,391	9,049
Number inspected	751	158	63	4,391	9,049
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	3	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	56	33	—	91	565
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	7.45	20.88	—	2.14	6.32
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	34	23	—	—	406
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ..	4.66	14.55	—	—	4.48

Total weight of meat condemned 5-tons. 1-cwt. 1-qtr. 7-lbs.

Other Foods condemned

Apricots (Tins)	4
Beans in Tomato (Tins)	11
Beef (lbs.)	20
Beef Corned, etc. (Tinned) (lbs.)	363
Carrots (Tins)	4
Cheese (lbs.)	123 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cherries (Tins)	5
Cream (Tins)	4
Fish (lbs.)	56
Fish Paste (Tins)	79
Fish (various) (Tins)	19
Fruit Salad (Tins)	5
Grapefruit (Tins)	6
Ham (Tinned (lbs.)	52
Lard (lbs.)	15
Meat (various) (Tins)	67
Milk (Tins)	174
Margarine (lbs.)	46 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mutton (lbs.)	37
Oranges (Tins)	4
Peas (Tins)	101
Peaches (Tins)	21
Pears (Tins)	30
Pineapple (Tins)	18
Plums (Tins)	9
Pork (lbs.)	27
Puddings (Tins)	5
Sauce Horseradish (Jars)	15
Soups (Tins)	17
Strawberries (Tins)	103
Tomatoes (Tins)	121
Tongue (Tinned)	79
Vegetables, Mixed (Tins)	2

In most cases the shopkeepers called the attention of the Department to the condition of these foods which were then voluntarily surrendered for destruction.

In one case, however, a complaint was received regarding the sale of an apple turnover pastry which on examination was found to contain mould. The pastry was seized in accordance with Section 9 of the Food and Drugs Act and subsequently condemned by a Magistrate. The shopkeeper concerned was fined £10 0s. 0d. with £4 4s. 0d. costs for selling unfit food.

Food Hygiene

There are 620 premises where food is stored and sold:

- 404 shops
- 14 cafes
- 39 canteens
- 163 licensed premises

The number of visits to food premises was unavoidably reduced to less than half of the number visited in 1956. Detailed inspections necessary to inform food traders of the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations was continued.

Routine sampling of ice cream, ice lollies and synthetic cream indicated a high standard of hygiene in their manufacture.

Ice Cream

56 Samples were forwarded for the Methylene Blue Test, the results were as follows:

	<i>Type of Mix</i>	<i>No. of Samples Submitted</i>	<i>GRADES</i>			
			1	2	3	4
Produced within the Urban District	Heat Treated	17	16	—	—	1
	Complete Cold	3	3	—	—	—
Produced outside	Heat Treated	36	36	—	—	—
TOTAL		56	55	—	—	1

Ice Lollies

30 samples were submitted for examination. The results are as detailed below:

<i>No. of Samples Submitted</i>	<i>PLATE COUNT PER C.C.</i>			<i>B. COLI CONTENT</i>	
	<i>Under 100</i>	<i>100 to 1,000</i>	<i>Over 1,000</i>	<i>Nil in 0.3 c.c.</i>	<i>Present in 0.3 c.c.</i>
30	26	2	2	28	2

Synthetic Cream

10 samples were submitted for examination, all proved free from pathogenic organisms.

Section 16

This Section requires all ice-cream premises and all premises where the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food is carried on to be registered. The Council have power to cancel or refuse registration of unsuitable premises.

There are 210 premises on the register:

Ice-cream factories.	..	..	..	..	..	5
Ice-cream shops.	..	..	..	..	..	164
Sausage, etc., factories.	..	..	..	..	..	17
Fish friers.	..	..	..	..	..	24

Section 34

5 premises are registered for carrying on the business of wholesale dealers in margarine.

MILK

There are 2 retail registered dairies and 3 retail milk purveyors within, and 9 dairymen with premises outside the District retailing milk in this area.

One dairy is equipped and licensed for the processing of milk for sale as sterilised bottled milk.

As the Urban District is a Specified Area all milk sold is either tuberculin tested, pasteurised, or sterilised.

Licences were issued as follows:

MILK (Special Designation) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Tuberculin Tested—

Supplementary Licences	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Dealer's Licences	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

MILK (Special Designation) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949-1953

Pasteurised—

Supplementary Licences	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Dealer's Licences	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

Sterilised—

Supplementary Licences	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Dealer's Licences	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Retailing Shopkeepers	..	..	..	..	..	..	188
Dealer's (Steriliser's) Licence	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

One producer retailer licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food sells bottled T.T. milk in the area.

Samples are taken regularly to see that the milk conforms to the tests specified in the Regulations. If any milk fails to pass the test the matter is investigated and corrected.

Milk produced at the 9 farms in the area is sampled for biological examination for the presence of tuberculosis infection.

Table V gives details of all milk samples taken.

TABLE V
MILK SAMPLING—RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION, 1957

Designation under which sold	Total No. of Samples		Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test		Tuberculosis Test	
	Bact.	Biol.	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Neg.	Pos.
T.T. Past ..	29	—	28	1	29	—	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised ..	102	—	78	2	102	—	—	—	—	—
Sterilised ..	25	—	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	—
T.T. (Raw) ..	12	4	8	4	—	—	—	—	4	—
Ungraded ..	7	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
TOTAL ..	175	11	121	7	131	—	25	—	11	—

22 samples of Pasteurised Milk submitted for Methylene Blue Test were void because of high atmospheric temperature on the day of sampling

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number in Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>	
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
Factories—			
With Mechanical Power	257	84	Nil
Without Mechanical Power	17	7	Nil
Total	274	91	Nil

One third of all factories in the district were visited, defects were found in 21 cases. New factories again featured in these figures and this is a matter deserving of more attention from those concerned in building and occupying new premises.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of Defects</i>				<i>Number of offences in respect of which Prose- cutions were Instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:					
Insufficient	1	2	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ..	19	15	—	1	—
Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences re- lating to Outwork) ..	1	—	—	—	—
Total	21	17	—	1	—

4 Outworkers lists were received notifying 6 Outworkers.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rats and Mice destruction is carried out free of charge to house-holders, business premises attract a charge on a cost plus basis. In all 207 dwelling houses plus 88 business premises were treated for minor infestations.

Full details of the work are reproduced from the annual return to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY			
	Non-Agricultural			
	<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)</i>	<i>All Other (including Business Premises)</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of properties in Local Authority's District	9	15,637	1,900	17,546
Number of properties inspected as a result of:				
Notification	—	235	—	235
Survey	5	22	114	141
Otherwise	—	538	553	1091
Total inspections carried out including re-inspection	19	827	919	1,746
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:				
Rats—Minor	5	177	78	260
Mice—Minor	—	30	10	40
Number of infested properties treated by the L.A.	5	207	88	300
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	17	239	302	558

Assistance was given to Amblecote U.D.C. when requested.

Sewers

The annual testbaiting of 80 manholes in various parts of the district resulted in 2 partial "takes." These were included in the maintenance treatment in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933—1954

7 new applications were received during the year, making a total of 55 licenced slaughtermen in the District.

SHOPS ACT

Details of the shop premises on the register are as follows:

Food Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	404
Cafes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Other Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	205
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	163

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Licences were issued in respect of 4 premises which, upon inspection, were found to be suitable.

PETROLEUM ACTS, 1928—1936

125 Premises are licenced to store petroleum spirit in the area, the total storage being 127,560 gallons. Licence fees amounted to £81 15s. 0d.

2 licences covering the storage of 4 tons Calcium Carbide were issued; the fees amounted to £1 5s. 0d.

Towards the end of the year, the Home Office issued a revised code of conditions for the licencing of petroleum spirit stores. The Council agreed that this code should be adopted in relation to licences issued in 1958. In accordance with these recommendations, it will be necessary to test all underground storages which are over 20 years old. There are over 70 of these and it is intended to carry out a general survey of licensed premises as soon as possible.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Two premises are registered under this Act.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, 1957

Housing Act						<i>Re-</i>
						<i>Inspections Inspections</i>
Repairs (Sec. 9)	2					4
Demolition (Sec. 11)	78					338
Clearance Areas	111					282
Other Visits	19					11
Improvement Grants	55					157

Public Health Act

Houses	512	1472
Council Houses	10	2
Overcrowding	85	27
Licensed Premises	8	12
Schools	2	—
Camping Sites, Licensed	24	20
Cinemas	6	1
Rivers Pollution	3	11
Smoke Abatement—		
Observations and Premises visited	38	4
Atmospheric Pollution Readings	250	—
Public Conveniences	23	17
Drainage (Inspections)	130	88
Drainage Tests	35	1
Cesspools	7	—
Sewers and Street Gullies	5	2
Ashes Accommodation	3	—
Accumulations	5	—
Disinfestation	4	—
Infectious Diseases	79	33
Swimming Pool	4	10

Factory Act

Factories	91	116
Bake-houses	16	6
Outworkers	6	—

Food and Drugs Act

Market, Food Premises including Ice Cream		
Retailers and Food Hygiene Regs.	366	342
Food Preparing Premises	42	17
Fish Fryers	22	10
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	7	2
Milk and Dairies	6	2
Food Vehicles	12	—

*Re-
Inspections Inspections*

Bye-Laws

Tents, Vans and Sheds	66	50
Piggeries	9	8
Slaughterhouses	1359	—
Shops Act	19	2
Pet Animals Act, 1951	4	—
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951 ..	2	—
Petroleum Act	20	43
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	35	16
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc. on Property ..	388	—

Sanitary Improvements carried out as a result of Inspections made and Notices served (Work actually carried out)

Dwelling Houses

Roofs repaired	64
External brickwork repaired	18
Rainwater pipes or gutters repaired or renewed	29
Damp proof courses provided	1
Plasterwork repaired	61
Firegrates repaired	8
Doors repaired or renewed	3
Windows repaired or renewed	75
Floors repaired	13
Staircases repaired	7
Wash-houses repaired	23
Sinks renewed	5
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	13
Wash boilers repaired or renewed	7
Water closets repaired	73
Obstructed drains cleared	23
Drains repaired or reconstructed	22

Food Premises

Slaughterhouses limewashed	1
Refrigerator provided	1
Rooms cleaned or repaired	15
Storage accommodation improved	5
Hot water provided	10
Sinks provided	3
Wash basins provided	18
Screens fitted	4
Outside display improved	2
Miscellaneous	10

Shops Act

Forms required to be exhibited	4
Redecoration	2

Licensed Premises

Sanitary accommodation limewashed	8
Sanitary accommodation screened	1
Water closets repaired	2
Hot water provided	1
Bar sinks renewed	1
Cellar floors repaired	1
Cellars limewashed	1
Living accommodation improved	1
Premises redecorated	1

Factories

Sanitary accommodation cleansed	6
Sanitary accommodation repaired	9
Additional sanitary accommodation provided	1
Miscellaneous	1

Other Nuisances

Caravans removed	3
Accumulations of manure and other refuse removed	4

PUBLIC CLEANSING

This section of the Report relates to the year ended 31st March, 1958.

Staff

Foreman	1
Male Employees	44
Female Employees	8

These are employed as follows:

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Refuse Collection	24	—
Refuse Disposal	1	—
Salvage	3	8
Street Cleansing	11	—
Gullies and Cesspools	2	—
Depots, Drains, Public Conveniences		
Rodent Control	3	—

The number of working days lost by all employees, through sickness or injuries was 1,350.

The vehicles available to the Department are listed below:

<i>Registration No.</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Year</i>
MRE 884	S & D Freighter (side loader)	1946
SRE 742	S & D Freighter (side loader)	1949
YRE 485	S & D Fore and Aft Tipper	1953
258 ARF	S & D Fore and Aft Tipper	1953
407 ERF	S & D Fore and Aft Tipper	1955
*306 TRF	S & D Fore and Aft Tipper (replaces MRE 884) ..	1958
DRF 624	S & D Cesspool Emptier	1936
WRE 752	S & D Gully-Cesspool Emptier	1951
CEA 293	Lewin Mechanical Road Sweeper	1946
NRE 136	Lewin Mechanical Road Sweeper	1947
*401 KRE	Bedford-Lacre Mechanical Road Sweeper (replaces CEA 293)	1956
*19 TRE	Bedford-Lacre Mechanical Road Sweeper	1957
NRF 427	Morris Van (street cleansing)	1947
34 LRF	Austin Pick-up (street cleansing)	1956
KFD 289	Ford Van (salvage and dust bin delivery)	1949
TRE 891	Morris Van (waste paper collection)	1950
WRF 364	Morris Van (waste paper collection)	1952
318 JRF	Morris Van (waste paper collection)	1956
TRE 247	Ford 5-cwt. Van (public conveniences and rodent operative)	1950
230 DRF	Austin A40 Van (Foreman)	1954
* ..	Bray Hydra Loader (Tip)	1958

* Denotes diesel engine

Refuse Collection

The weekly collection of house refuse was maintained except for two annual holiday periods. Those who remember the fortnightly and longer collection periods which were forced onto us during the war period will appreciate the benefit of this achievement.

Nearly 12,000 tons of refuse was collected and the number of bin emptyings exceeded 850,000. The cost of collecting a bin, emptying into the vehicle, returning the bin and disposing of the refuse together with making provision for the replacement of the bin averages 8d. per week. The cost of the provision of bins, a service much appreciated by householders, is substantial and it is regrettable that many users abuse this service by burning refuse in the bins thus reducing the life of the bin from 8 to 10 years to 2 to 5 years. The Public Health Committee are rightly very concerned about this and have in some instances asked the offenders to make a contribution towards the cost of the damage. 16,941 bins have been provided since 1950.

The bin bonus scheme operated very satisfactorily but it is becoming obvious that with the continuing growth of the district an additional refuse collection round will have to be established during 1958.

Disposal

All refuse is carried to The Leys where tipping is strictly controlled in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health. For some years levelling of the refuse was carried out with a Fordson half-track bulldozer, and covering material dug and carried on the site using a Bray Hydraloader. Towards the end of the year it was decided to purchase a larger four wheel drive Brayloader with a full width bucket which is able to do the work of both the other machines. The full economy of this should show in the following years accounts.

In order to reduce disposal costs, it has been the practice to salvage tins and other saleable materials from the tipped refuse. Women are employed in this work. The tins are baled by an electric baling machine.

The total tonnage of all refuse was:

House Refuse..	..	..	..	..	11,208	
Trade ..	..	..	..	..	676	
						11,884
Road Sweepings	..	..	..	..		1,491
						13,375 Tons

Waste Paper

The separate collection of waste paper resulted in 582 tons value £4,760 being sold to the Thames Board Mills. Although the tonnage was 27-tons lower, increased sorting of grades offset any loss of income.

Although collection has had to be restricted in recent years to comply with a quota system, the trend at the end of the period was for a drop in availability largely due to changes in local industry.

All paper is baled by 2 electric presses operated by women.

Loading of baled paper and tins is facilitated by using a power loader.

Salvage Income	<i>Tons</i>	£
Paper	582	4,760
Baled Tins	190	1,527
Metals	9	73
Miscellaneous	5	31
	786	£6,391

The continuance of waste paper collection and the salvage of materials from the tip has to be kept under frequent review in view of the high cost of transport and expenditure on sorting, etc. So far as paper is concerned, much of this would probably have to be collected with refuse without income if the collection service was abandoned.

COST STATEMENT TO THE 31st MARCH, 1958

Collection and Disposal of House and Trade Refuse and Salvage

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Collection</i>	<i>Disposal</i>	<i>Total</i>
Revenue Account—			
Gross Expenditure—	£	£	£
Labour	12219	3101	15320
Transport	7578	3748	11326
Plant, equipment, land and buildings*	6041	3393	9434
Other items	—	—	—
Total	25838	10242	36080
Gross Income	229	6607	6906
Net Cost	25539	3635	29174
Unit Costs—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Gross cost per ton—labour only ..	19 8	4 11	24 7
Gross cost per ton—transport only ..	12 2	6 0	18 2
Net cost per ton*	41 0	5 10	46 10
	£	£	£
Net cost per 1,000 population* ..	499	71	570
Net cost per 1,000 premises* ..	1549	220	1769

* The cost of providing ashbins, *i.e.* £3,450 is included in Plant, etc., and represents 5s. 8d. per ton, £67 per 1,000 population and £209 per 1,000 premises of the Net Unit Costs.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Area	5,851 acres
Population at 30th June, 1957	51,180
Total refuse collected—actual	12,466 tons
Weight per 1,000 population per day	13.35 cwts.
Number of premises	16,490
Average haul	2.25 miles
Frequency of collection	weekly
Kerbside collection (percentage of total collection)	Nil
Total refuse disposed of	12,466 tons
Method of disposal—controlled tipping	100%
Rateable Value	£459,653
Product of 1d. rate	£1,786
Rate in £ (Collection and Disposal)	1s. 4d.

Street Cleansing

Due to the ever increasing number of new roads in the district, it became necessary to purchase a further mechanical road sweeper. This was a second Bedford Lacre Machine powered by a Bedford Diesel Engine. The new machine arrived in October and one of the old machines was belatedly dismantled to provide spares for stock. It was still found advantageous to have a “flying squad” to give daily attention to bus stops and places where “litter bugs” practice their untidy habits.

Among other problems which beset the street cleanser in this district are:

- (1) The frequent breaking open of streets by public undertakings to satisfy the demands of industry and new housing estates for power, etc.
- (2) The fouling of roads with clay and dirt from the twin wheels of lorries.
- (3) The dropping of eoke and slack, etc., from overloaded lorries.

The first item is perhaps unavoidable, but the second and third show lack of consideration for other road users.

Details of the work of the vehicles is as follows:

	<i>Number of Loads</i>	<i>Weight Tons</i>	<i>Loads of Water</i>	<i>Working Days</i>
No. 1 Lewin Sweeper	122	219	133	104
No. 2 Lewin Sweeper	56	103	41	45
No. 3 Bedford Lacre Sweeper	360	744	164	254
No. 4 Bedford Lacre Sweeper	167	395	51	108
	705	1461	389	511
Street sweepings moved by other vehicles	21	30	—	
Total	726	1491	389	

Gully Cleansing

The emptying of street gullies is by mechanical means, and proceeded in a routine manner.

COST STATEMENT, 1957-1958

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Street Sweeping and Watering</i>	<i>Street Gully Cleansing</i>	<i>Total</i>
Revenue Account—			
Gross Expenditure—	£	£	£
Labour	2879	329	3208
Transport	3707	1090	4797
Plant, equipment, build- ing, etc.	2733	84	2817
Other items	—	—	—
Total	9319	1503	10822
Unit Costs—	£	s. d.	s. d.
Net cost per street mile cleansed	130	—	—
Net cost per 1,000 gullies cleansed	£ —	£ 130	£ —
Net cost per 1,000 popula- tion	182	29	211

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Mileage of streets cleansed	71.83
Frequency of cleansing—	
At least once daily	4%
Three to five times weekly	0%
Twice weekly	12%
Once weekly	80%
Less than once weekly	4%
Number of street gullies cleansed	2,220
Number of gully cleansings	11,392
Weight of street and gully refuse	2,192 tons

Cesspools

The number of cesspools cleansed was 271, loads removed were 617 and the cost was £695.

New Depot

An important event was the move in October, 1957 from the old Round Oak Depot to the new Central Depot for all Departments. This has been built on part of the land at The Leys Tip. The new garage is a vast improvement on the unsatisfactory accommodation at the old Depot. In addition, the old building housing the salvage baling presses has been abandoned and a new cleaner press room provided to give better working conditions for the employees. Provision has been made for vehicle washing with a high pressure hose.

Vehicle Repairs

When the depot plan was under consideration, provision was made for vehicle repairs to be carried out on the premises, a repair bay with two pits being provided. A larger greasing pit was also laid down at one end of the main garage. The repair section with a foreman and an assistant mechanic now operates under the control of the department which has been made responsible for the repair and maintenance of all the Council's vehicles and loose plant. The vehicles operated by the Cleansing Department have been listed, and the following is a list of those in other Departments:

<i>Registration No.</i>		<i>Vehicle</i>							<i>Year</i>
Housing Department									
WRF 116	Fordson Lorry ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1952	
YRF 288	Commer Lorry ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1953	
481 DRF	Austin A40 Van	..	..	..	..	..	..	1954	

Highways Department

URF 545	Austin 2-ton Lorry	..	..	..	..	..	..	1950
387 CRF	Austin 2-ton Lorry	..	..	..	..	..	..	1954
722 FRE	Austin 2-ton Lorry	..	..	..	..	..	..	1955
826 KRF	Austin Van ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1956
EAA 910	Austin Van ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1941
*ORF 619	International Bulldozer	..	..	..	..	..	..	1948
*380 HRF	Green Road Roller	..	..	..	..	..	..	1955
*XRE 140	Bray Hydraloader	..	..	..	..	..	..	1952

Parks Department

MRF 452	John Deer Tractor	..	..	..	..	..	..	1947
ONP 298	Ferguson Tractor	..	..	..	..	..	..	1955
753 BRP	Commer 2-ton Lorry	..	..	..	..	..	..	1954
448 LRE	Austin Pick-up	..	..	..	..	..	..	1956

Farm

*411	ARF	Ford 5-ton Lorry	..	..	..	..	..	1953
*MWP	251	Ferguson Tractor	..	..	..	..	..	1954
*SRE	370	Ferguson Tractor	..	..	..	..	..	1957

Library

83	RRE	Austin Omnivan	..	..	..	..	..	1957
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Cars

MXO	586	Humber Pullman (Chairman)	..	..	..	..	1952
NFD	168	Ford Prefect (Farm Manager)	..	..	..	..	1952
39	NRE	Ford Popular (Housing Welfare)	..	..	..	..	1955

Plant

4 Concrete Mixers	17 Motor Mowers
1 Mortar Mixer	1 Allan Motor Seythe
2 Compressors	1 Lister Stationary Engine
	1 Water Pump

* Denotes Diesel Engines

The few months of operation to 31st March, 1958 have largely been used in establishing a systematic routine of servicing and inspection. Each vehicle is now brought in on a rota system and records are kept of repairs done. The long term objective must be to reduce breakdowns and loss of availability of machines to a minimum by "preventive maintenance" and at the same time prolong the life of the vehicles. The opportunity has also been taken to centralise the purchase of all oils, greases and vehicle spares including tyres and batteries.

Vehicle greasing and tyre inflation is the responsibility of the drivers, all of whom have been trained in the use of the high pressure greasing equipment. Their work is checked by the foreman mechanic.

The establishment of this new section has made heavy demands on time and the purchase and installation of new equipment has been a substantial cost item. The first indications, however, are that a higher standard of maintenance is resulting. Much of the credit for this must be given to the foreman mechanic who spared no effort in the initial stages, and to the service and advice freely given by the various equipment suppliers, vehicle manufacturing agents, etc.

Sanitary Accommodation

The following figures show the considerable progress that has been made since the amalgamation in 1934:

Year ending									
31st March			W.C.'s	Bins	Pans	Ashpits Privies	Dry Ashpits	Cesspools	
1935	..	..	.. 10458	10388	143	262	108	135	
1958	..	..	.. 17800	16900	54	2	1	115	

Public Conveniences

The following conveniences are cleansed daily by this Department.

Round Oak, Brierley Hill	..	..	..	Male.
Pearson Street, Brierley Hill	..	..	..	Male and Female.
Hill Street, Brierley Hill	..	..	..	Male and Female.
Church Street, Brierley Hill	..	..	..	Male and Female.
Cottage Street, Brierley Hill	..	..	..	Male and Female.
Mill Street, Brierley Hill	..	..	..	Male.
High Street, Quarry Bank	..	..	..	Male and Female.
High Street, Brockmoor	..	..	..	Male and Female.
High Street, Pensnett	..	..	..	Male and Female.
High Street, Pensnett	..	..	..	Male.
High Street, Kingswinford	..	..	..	Male and Female.
Enville Road, Wallheath	..	..	..	Male and Female.
Lawnswood Road, Wordsley	..	..	..	Male and Female.
High Street, Wordsley	..	..	..	Male.

C. H. CRAWFORD,

*Chief Public Health Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.*

